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# CONGRESSMAN HENRY A. WAXMAN NEWS

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## REPRESENTATIVES URGE NAZI WAR CRIMES SUSPECT CASE BE REOPENED

Eleven Members of Congress have written to Secretary of State Kissinger urging him to reopen the notorious Artukovic case. Andrija Artukovic, a high-ranking official in the Croatian puppet government established by the Nazis, is accused of having played a major role in the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Jews, Gypsies, and Serbs. He was ordered deported in 1953, but the deportation order was stayed by the advice of the State Department. He now lives in Southern California.

The letter, which was circulated by Representatives Henry A. Waxman (D-CA), and Elizabeth Holtzman (D-NY), was signed by Representatives Blanchard, Drinan, Edgar, Lloyd of California, Rees, Scheuer, Spellman, Stark, and Yates. Congressional interest in the Artukovic case was initially spurred by the work done by Representative Holtzman in exposing the failure of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to pursue cases of alleged Nazi war criminals living in the United States.

The letter asks Dr. Kissinger to re-evaluate the decision not to execute the 22-year-old deportation order against Artukovic. Waxman expressed the belief that it may be proper, this time, to enforce the order. He said, "It was feared in the early fifties that the Yugoslavian government would not give Artukovic a fair trial. I doubt if this fear is valid now. My sense of justice is outraged by the fact that Andrija Artukovic is enjoying a pleasant retirement in Southern California despite the massive evidence that he was 'one of the Eichmanns of Croatia.' We owe it to the victims of Nazi barbarism to make certain justice is done in this case."

Representative Holtzman said: "For more than 20 years Andrija Artukovic has avoided deportation to face trial for the atrocious crimes with which he has been charged. In view of the improved relations between the United States and many Eastern European nations, including Yugoslavia, this is an appropriate time for the State Department to reconsider its objections to Artukovic's deportation."